



DSA candidates anxiously await the results of the election, Jan. 22. From left: Julie Heidrich, Beverly Cutone, Tracey McKillop and Krista Ogg.

(Photo by Jeannette Cantin)

Voter turnout only 16 per cent

DSA election winners announced

By Jeannette Cantin

The election candidates formed a circle and held hands in the Sanctuary on Feb. 22, while awaiting the results of the week's voting for the DSA executive positions.

Pedro Sousa, chief returning officer, announced that the 627 students who voted, representing 16 per cent of eligible voters, chose April-Dawn Blackwell for president, Beverly Cutone for vice-president of student affairs, and Krista Ogg as vice-president of operations.

The number of voting students — six per cent greater than last year's turnout — was too low to proceed with the DSA's plans to offer a school-wide pizza party at the Year End Bash.

Blackwell, currently vice-president of

student affairs, stressed her ability to provide "results, not just words," during her campaign speech.

Blackwell used examples of improvements she said were directly attributable to her, such as a four-week decrease in lag time for drug plan cards and remuneration, and DSA budget savings of over \$6,000, to back up her words.

Stressing teamwork and communication, she said she has already been working with students throughout the college to obtain direct feedback. She also promised to issue a report card to allow students to rate her performance as president.

Cutone, currently vice-president of the Conestoga Business Students' Association, also stressed accountability to students during her campaign speech.

She likened the students to customers, and said she wanted students to tell her what they wanted from her.

Cutone also discussed the need for increased health plan coverage to cover such expenses as dentist appointments and eye glasses.

Krista Ogg, who sits on the DSA board of directors, said in her campaign speech that she has developed a strong sense of what the DSA is all about.

She added the DSA is a good organization, but has room for improvement, and promised to work hard to expand the ideas in place.

Ogg stressed student involvement and responsibility, and said she was open to input from the student body.

Ogg, Cutone, and Blackwell will take over their new duties in May 1996.

"Keeping Conestoga College connected"

This week in the news

Teacher cuts worry union president

The quality of education is at stake because of a reduction in expenses combined with a 20 per cent cut in faculty members, says John Berry, faculty union president.

For details see page 2

Noble addresses board of governors

Howat Noble, chairman of the council of regents, addressed the board of governors, saying he hopes for a better relationship in the future.

For details see page 3

Guelph campus to recycle

Students and staff at Conestoga's Guelph campus will soon be giving garbage a second thought when the wet/dry program is implemented this month.

For details see page 8

Spacehog worth a refund

Three good songs can't save Spacehog's *Resident Alien* from less than intelligent lyrics that plague the entire release.

For details see page 10

Condors ready for tournament

Now back to full strength, Conestoga's hockey team is touted to win provincial tournament.

For details see page 12

President explains Snobelen visit

Tibbits tells DSA student services secure

By Jeannette Cantin

Conestoga College president John Tibbits and John McKenzie, director of student development and human resources, attended the Feb. 19 DSA meeting to clear possible misgivings regarding cut-back plans for student services.

Tibbits said he wanted the DSA to know there was no intention to cut services, as may have been intimidated by Kevin Mullan, the college's vice-president of finance and administrative operations, during earlier interviews.

Tibbits also used the opportunity to address concerns raised by the visit of Education and Training Minister John Snobelen.

McKenzie informed the DSA executive that the college was looking to manage its operations more effectively and efficiently, but didn't intend to make any big cuts to student services.

April-Dawn Blackwell, vice-president of student affairs, said students are concerned they may have to pay for counselling services.

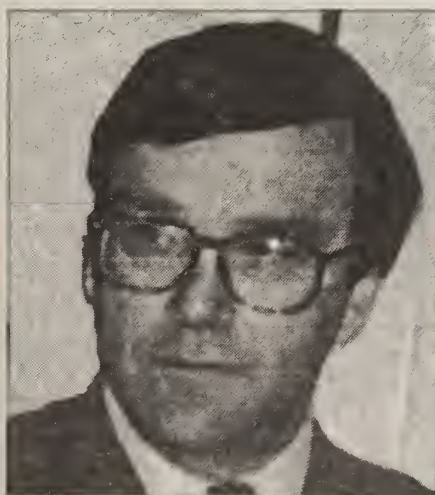
Tibbits assured Blackwell there was "no plan to charge user fees at this point." Instead, he said, the college is looking to operate current services more cost effectively. Tibbits did allude to the possibility of cuts outside of Doon campus.

"We are certainly looking at what we are doing at the other campuses," Tibbits said, but added the college wasn't offering many student services at those locations anyway. In the future, he said, the other campuses may serve as training and development or adult education locations. In such a situation, students would be attending classes and going home, and would not necessarily need or want a student association.

Tibbits informed the DSA he didn't feel there would be any "huge" changes in student services, and noted nothing will be done until a thorough evaluation of the early-leave situation is conducted.

The college, he said, will be "leaner and meaner, but there are no surprises at this time."

Tibbits also addressed the excitement caused by John Snobelen's visit on Jan. 16.



President John Tibbits

(file photo)

He explained it was not a protocol visit, and that Snobelen gave only one week's notice of his intentions. As well, Snobelen made it clear it was just a drop-in visit and that he wished to discuss issues with Tibbits alone. "No one's nose should be out of joint,"

Tibbits said. "He wasn't here to meet students or teachers."

Tibbits said he raised the issue of speaking with groups on campus, but that Snobelen said he didn't have the time.

"His visit had a very narrow purpose to it. He didn't have met at the Three Minute Deli so no one would know," Snobelen's visit was not to be seen as a "spectre of the future" in regards to communication between administration and the students, he added.

Saying "no" to the visit because of this, wasn't an option, he said.

There was no intention on his part to hide the visit, Tibbits said. If that were the case, "we could have met at the Three Minute Deli so no one would know." Snobelen's visit was not to be seen as a "spectre of the future" in regards to communication between administration and the students, he added.

Tibbits said that even if the visit had been protocol, and Snobelen had met with various groups, there was no guarantee he would have listened.

He said in his experience, officials in those situations "hear everyone, but are not listening."

CAMPUS NEWS

News editor: Robert Klager 748-5366

News Briefs

Notice to all OSAP students

- Students who owe tuition, or deferred payment of their tuition upon receipt of OSAP are requested to pick up their OSAP funds immediately, at the financial aid office.

Conestoga hosts hockey championships

- The Conestoga College Condors will be playing March 15 at 3 p.m. at Conestoga's recreation centre. An opponent is still to be determined. The loser advances to the bronze medal game at noon on March 16. The winner advances to the gold medal game with a chance at the National Championships, also to be held at Conestoga, March 28-31.

Correction

Regarding the Feb. 19 Spoke story, the *Costs and curriculum issues for local day care*, Owl Day Care Centre in Kitchener charges approximately \$520 a month to look after preschoolers.

Alternative delivery manager wants to allay students' concerns

By Robert Klager

For some time now, it has been known that methods of alternative delivery of programs will be implemented at Conestoga College in September, and Carolyn Dudgeon wants to quell any apprehensions students may have regarding these new methods.

In a recent interview, the manager of the alternative curriculum delivery project at the college indicated the methods are in fact, only new here.

She said they have been in place and successful in many other institutions for some time.

Dudgeon completed her doctorate in higher education in December 1995, specializing in adult educa-

tion curriculum. Her doctoral dissertation was based on alternative curriculum delivery, and is the model Conestoga has adopted.

"In completing my studies, I was in the unique situation of using alternative methods," said Dudgeon.

She said it gave her the advantage of actually experiencing what she was researching.

Her research included surveying many colleges and universities in North America that met the criteria of having implemented alternative methods for higher education.

"In many cases, implementation was extremely successful," said Dudgeon. "The methods actually motivated the students to learn."

Dudgeon attributed this partially to the ability of students to retain the content of their studies, and particularly to three principle characteristics evident in alternative methods.

"Through my research I found major advantages for students when considering the factors of time, place and pace."

She pointed to the flexibility such methods provide for the students.

She noted the convenience to the student in being able to work on courses at home, at night and at a personalized pace.

Dudgeon said there will still be distinct time-lines for programs, but within those lines will be the positive aspect of self-directed learning.

Dudgeon is quick to emphasize this doesn't mean students will be completely on their own. She said students will be provided with staff support and assistance in time management.

"These will be very well-developed packages using curriculum materials created with good design methods. This is not distance or correspondence education," said Dudgeon. "The school will ensure an academic focus, good materials, complete facilitation and orientation of the methods and continuing support through teachers and student services."

Initially, Conestoga will employ print-and-computer-based methods in health sciences, computer literacy and student success courses.

Loss of 52 faculty members concerns union president

By Judith Hemming

The president of Conestoga College's faculty union says he is concerned that the quality of education is in jeopardy.

John Berry, reacting to the news that 52 faculty members are taking the early buyout package, said the college will have to adjust to a 20 per cent reduction in teaching staff as well as a reduction in expenses.

The college must reduce expenses starting April 1, 1996. A provincial education grant has been cut \$4.7 million.

Berry said there will have to be changes to the current teaching strategies.

"Do we substitute 20 per cent of your hours and your time now with alternate delivery? Do we now give you a textbook and Coles notes and let you go to it?" he said.

Berry said he has reservations about alternate delivery, which includes such alternate teaching methods as individual learning packages, peer teaching and interactive video classes.

He said a small amount of alternate delivery would probably not

affect the quality of education, but a larger amount could cause trouble.

"I'm not against it, but I think there's a lot of danger, depending on how you go about it."

He said that while industry is using some of these methods, they have a different clientele. I don't know how the students are going to feel towards it.

Berry said one of the strengths of the college system is that students receive hands-on learning, which is different from learning just theory.

John Tibbits, president of Conestoga College, said Conestoga students will continue to receive a quality education.

He said 16 of the 52 faculty members leaving, belong to the programs which receive funding directly from the government.

He said those programs cannot be offered without government funding.

Tibbits said teaching contracts have not changed in terms of hours of teaching or how the number of students and courses are weighted for wage purposes.

"I am confident, from a student's point of view, students will

have quality education," Tibbits said. Students, the president said, will not be walking into large classes in the upcoming school year, and teachers will have the same work load as they did this year.

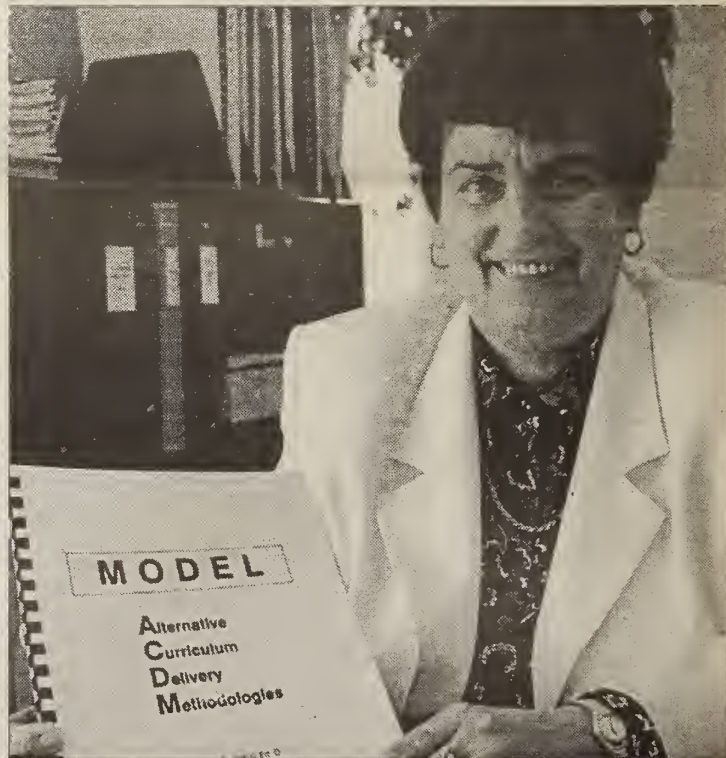
Tibbits said, "At this point in time, we are not looking at major cuts in program hours."

He said students at college have more class hours than the typical arts undergraduate at a university.

Tibbits said there are ways to improve education while reducing costs. "Look at what's happened in industry over the last 10 years. They've had to improve the quality of their product and yet they've cut their costs. In fact, their cars are better now than they were 10 years ago."

"There is no question these cuts are tough," said Tibbits. "These are huge cuts for the college and adjusting is a difficult process for us. But I don't believe that we're going to see students getting a less adequate education."

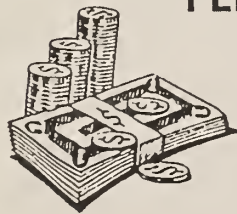
"I think an education here is a quality education and I think it will be as good or better in the future."



Carolyn Dudgeon is the manager of the alternative curriculum delivery project at Conestoga College. (Photo by Robert Klager)

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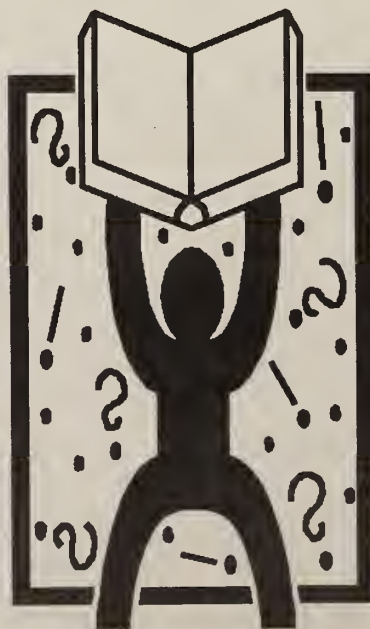
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CAMPUS NEWS

Internet access soon a reality

By Patrick Moore

Full student access to the Internet could be a reality as early as September 1996, says the vice-president of finance and administrative operations at Conestoga College.

"The most desirable result would be to have full, unlimited access for everyone," Kevin Mullan said.

Mullan was speaking to the Doon Student Association board of directors, Feb. 20.

"We have had major problems installing Windows and Novell software into the college's computers in the past," Mullan said.

He said the college wanted to avoid the same types of problems when installing Internet access.

Mullan said a fibre-optic network would be required for smooth Internet access.

He said the network would cost about \$150,000 and the college has already started working on it.

The LRC would be the first place that Internet access would be available beyond what is already there, Mullan said. "A second lab would be opened in the existing computer area."

The cost of opening the second lab

with 30 computer stations and the servers needed to connect them would be about \$90,000, Mullan said.

He said there is a problem with students not being able to access computer labs for school work and the problem would only get worse if some computers were converted to Internet use. "We need a separate lab to try and avoid this problem."

He said two main Internet functions would be available: full access to students on campus and a cost-effective way for students who already have Internet access to connect from home.

"The Internet is a dynamic entity. The question we must ask is, how do we give all students access?" said Grant McGregor, dean of applied arts, business and engineering technology.

McGregor said the Internet can be used by students as a research tool. He said the possibility exists that Conestoga could offer courses through the Internet in the near future.

"But there are problems," McGregor said. "Bell Canada doesn't find it cost advantageous to build a fibre-optic network up to the front

door of Conestoga."

Mullan said, "Bell was going to put new lines in last fall, but they pulled back for financial reasons."

Bell has to come up with a broader band-width cable leading into Conestoga so that access can be faster and smoother, McGregor said.

There was \$560,000 spent on computer upgrades last year, despite an allotment of only about \$360,000 from the province, he said.

"We are committed to making this happen," McGregor said. "We must set a standard that says, 'This is going to work.'"

Gavin FitzPatrick, entertainment assistant, asked for the time-line involved in setting up Internet access.

"Sept. 1, 1996, will have the LRC lab up and ready," Mullan said. "Hopefully the dedicated computer lab will be set up as well."

McGregor said even though a budget has not been approved for the new school year, the computer labs will be a part of it. He said while prices are still tentative, a suggested price would be \$6.95 per month for 10 hours of Internet access, plus 50 cents an hour after the first 10.

Safety is important issue at ECE centre

By Johanna Neufeld

Safety is an important issue on campus, especially at the Early Childhood Education centre.

Donna McKenna, director of early childhood education (ECE) said staff are trained to handle emergencies.

Team leader Joyce Chapman said the centre helps children learn through play while in a safe environment.

During last fall's bomb threat, McKenna said buses arrived at ECE in 15 minutes to transport the children to nearby Tall Pines day-care centre. ECE also has an agreement with the Doon Pioneer Golf Course as an alternative location, but only if someone is there, which isn't always the case during the winter months.

In the case of a fire, the centre follows the procedures in the

Emergency Response Plan. Fire drills are conducted monthly by the health and safety committee, said McKenna, and are usually carried out when the children aren't napping.

When asked if the centre's playground has had to remove broken glass or syringes McKenna said, "We've never had that." Some centres in Toronto close their playgrounds for several days to remove glass and to ensure the area is safe again but Kim Radigan, Health, Safety and Environmental Co-ordinator said physical resources or housekeeping would clean up the debris immediately.

Food is another consideration these days with children. They are becoming allergic to it as well as their environment. Peanut butter is banned from the centre, while hairspray and perfume are not allowed at other day-care centres.

Who you gonna call?



No, Conestoga has not been invaded by ghosts! It is just some students taking the one-year environmental engineering certificate program gearing up for their hazardous material handling course, on Feb. 23.

(Photo by Perry Hagerman)

Noble addresses board of governors

By Paul Tuns

The chairman of the Council of Regents, addressing the Feb. 26 meeting of the college's board of governors said he hopes things will be different this year. Last year the board and the council were involved in a public conflict over the appointment of several board members.

Howat Noble said he hopes to avoid those difficulties this year. Noble, chairman for just a few months, said, "What has happened in the past will not happen while I'm chair."

He said the board should have four potential vacancies in the next round.

Noble said he supports the community-based approach of the board. "The board should pick exactly who the board thinks will help you face the challenges ahead."

However, he said, he is only one voice out of many on the council

and not everybody has the same view.

Noble said he thinks colleges should have more say in choosing who will be appointed to the boards of governors. The council should give minimal guidance. "We need guidelines (from the council) to help decide who will be chosen from the community, but those guidelines can be contained on one page."

Lynda Davenport, chairwoman of the board of governors, said Noble "came not in conflict, but in partnership, as a real team player."

Noble said he looks at himself as a "real advocate of the colleges."

Noble also addressed some general issues in education, the council and the future of colleges. He said he sees "colleges as career training systems," and council's role should be to "keep colleges in the game."

He outlined other roles colleges play including providing jobs and leading social change. But, he said,

"What colleges are all about needs to be clarified as it is a bit muddy." Noble said colleges need to better understand their mission so they can better perform it.

Noble also addressed the role and future of the Colleges Standards Accreditation Council (CSAC). While there is still no accreditation system, he said, CSAC will have to be looked at. "There are 80 programs in the province that require standards and only nine will be done by March 31." CSAC began its work three years ago.

"In this time and age, if in three years you have not reached a critical mass you are going to be looked very, very seriously," Noble also said standards must be kept contemporary yet no work has been done on that.

"CSAC is being reviewed," he said. "We are aware of the challenges we face, the pros and cons of CSAC, and I hope for a quick resolution."

Health Fair March 14

in the main building 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
at the registrar's office 8 a.m to 1 p.m.

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Advertisers in SPOKE are not endorsed by the DSA unless their advertisements contain the DSA logo. SPOKE shall not be liable for any damages arising out of errors in advertising beyond the amount paid for the space.

Unsolicited submissions must be sent to the editor at the above address by 9:30 a.m. Monday. Submissions are subject to acceptance or rejection and should be clearly written or typed; a WordPerfect 5.0 file would be helpful. Submissions must not contain any libellous statements and may be accompanied by an illustration (such as a photograph).



Just a thought

By Blake Ellis

It may not be *Green Acres*, but it's valuable

On many family farms, farming isn't just an occupation, it's a lifestyle. Because of this, it leaves many farm kids wishing for the day when they can say farewell to their farming days and move on. I was one of these kids.

I didn't want to have to go to the barn every night to do chores. I wanted to be able to enjoy hot summer days without having to spend them in the barn unloading and stacking hay bails during a July hot spell.

Parents start their children young in the introduction of daily chores, even at five or six a child is expected to help with the feeding of the calves. Usually he would get more milk on himself than the calf was able to drink. Things seem to escalate from there in the amount of chores a farm kid is expected to do.

The first thing farm kids learn at an early age is to always look busy and never ask what they can do because they are bored. Or the next thing they know, they are knee deep in manure, with a pitch fork cleaning out a calf pen that hasn't been touched in weeks. But to tell the truth, after moving off my family's farm, I haven't really felt comfortable in my new city surroundings. I began to appreciate the agricultural lifestyle.

Now, when I go home for a visit, I slip on a pair of coveralls and head out to the barn to help with the milking. I hated to do it when I was a kid but now I enjoy it, to my amazement.

A bit of nostalgia always sets in as the memories coming flooding back, the Friday afternoons selling corn at the end of the lane to cottagers, chicken catching or help-

ing a calf being born. Those were the days when my 15-year-old neighbor would drive a tractor into town because he didn't have a licence.

Nobody can ever forget the autumn concession barbeque at the neighbor's farm. My friends and I would take their field car out to the back field and rip up the ground after the crop had been taken off. Of course the fun would come to a halt when either the engine overheated or we ended up turning the car on its roof.

Those weren't the only mishaps that occurred. The windshield of the farm pickup was broken when a stone didn't quite make it over the cab while we were picking stones. It was a time before life became complex, before responsibilities and commitments shadowed one's life.

Urban kids were the envy of all of us because they didn't have to go through the agony of manual labor and then having to strip at the back door because we all smelled so bad after a long day of work.

But, we were able to do a lot of things that they didn't have the chance to do, like ride a pony in the back field, ride the sows at a neighbor's farm only to fall face first in the mud or having milk fights in the barn with your friends when you were suppose to be doing chores.

It is a shame many people, like myself, are leaving the farm to pursue other things and not looking at agriculture as a career option.

In retrospect, living on a farm isn't bad. In fact I'm glad I had the opportunities and the experiences the farm gave me that a lot that other people did not get.

Your opinion matters.
Write a letter
to the editor.

Violent student action
freezes sympathy

Broken glass and scarred woodwork left a mute but poignant reminder of the anger of protestors who stormed the provincial legislature in Toronto.

The steel barricades encircling the perimeter of Queen's Park and the police officers manning those barricades were not enough of a force, or enough of a deterrent, to stop the mob.

The beautiful wood panels that line the inside of the legislature's walls were slashed by hands that paid no mind to the beauty of the carvings nor the stately and historic halls in which they were placed; the same halls that have witnessed over a hundred years of the democratic process.

The protestors themselves were students. University students from across the province turned out for the demonstration according to the Canadian Federation of Students; a lobby group for post-secondary students.

This is the same lobby group that only last year rained Kraft dinner on then-minister Lloyd Axworthy, a move which prompted one of the largest universities in this area, the University of Waterloo, to pull its support from the CFS.

No one doubts students are angry and concerned for the future of their education, but the method pursued to express those anxieties that bleak day puts the entire legitimacy of those very concerns in question.

When protestors use violence, whether against people, institutions or inanimate objects to make their point, the cause, no matter how lofty and shiny it is, suffers. It is brought low by the very people who profess to champion it.

Federal cuts are coming and provincial cuts have already been announced. Ontario, one of the richest provinces in confederation, is going to take a hard hit; a reality check if you will.

However, the actions of those Ontario students, who have been charged for their deeds, become even harsher and meaner in the light of another protest conducted peacefully in one of Canada's poorest provinces.

Students of New Brunswick's various universities and colleges also expressed their displeasure with the current fiscal trends governments are adopting.

These students marched with all the conventional student props: bull-horns, placards, woolly hats and backpacks, but their protest was orderly and peaceful.

Their concerns were the same, but they didn't see the need to trash their provincial seat. They didn't think it necessary to get themselves arrested on a fairly serious, if uncommon, charge. Their cause did not need that brand of notoriety and subsequently, lost nothing in the translation. The behavior of the New Brunswick students, while not as eye-catching, definitely came out on top.

When it comes to protests and causes, delivery counts for everything. It's very easy to tune out furious students and dismiss them as frothing idiots. It's a lot harder to debate with students who have taken the time to arm themselves with knowledge and battle with a clear head.

If Fredericton was "The Good" then "Hogtown" suited Toronto.

ENTERTAINMENT

Pop goes the Lyon Local band rocks students during Sanctuary nooner

By Diane Santos

The Sanctuary had room only for those students willing to stand by the time the band Shannon Lyon Pop Explosion took center stage on Feb. 22.

"I walked past the lounge and I could feel the base vibrate right down and through to my knees," said Krista Ogg, newly-elected vice-president of operations.

Shannon Lyon, the band's leader, told the crowd that the band would be performing songs from their new album *Mod's Room*.

Although Weeping Tile was scheduled to perform at the nooner, Shannon Lyon Pop Explosion had no problem agreeing to play the Sanctuary when they were asked, said Steve Geerts, DSA's director of entertainment.

"Weeping Tile cancelled because they are touring with Blue Rodeo. So Gavin asked these guys and they said sure. That's how we got them on short notice for today," said Geerts.

By 12:15 p.m. approximately 100 people had filled the couches, chairs and floor in the Sanctuary, as they tapped their feet to the beat or danced in their seats.

Unlike nooners which feature comics, students were able to continue playing foosball, air hockey and pool during the performance because the music was louder than the sounds of the individual games.

Josh Hauptert, a third-semester journalism student said the music was noticeable throughout the B-wing. "You could hear it when you were coming down the stairs from

the second floor."

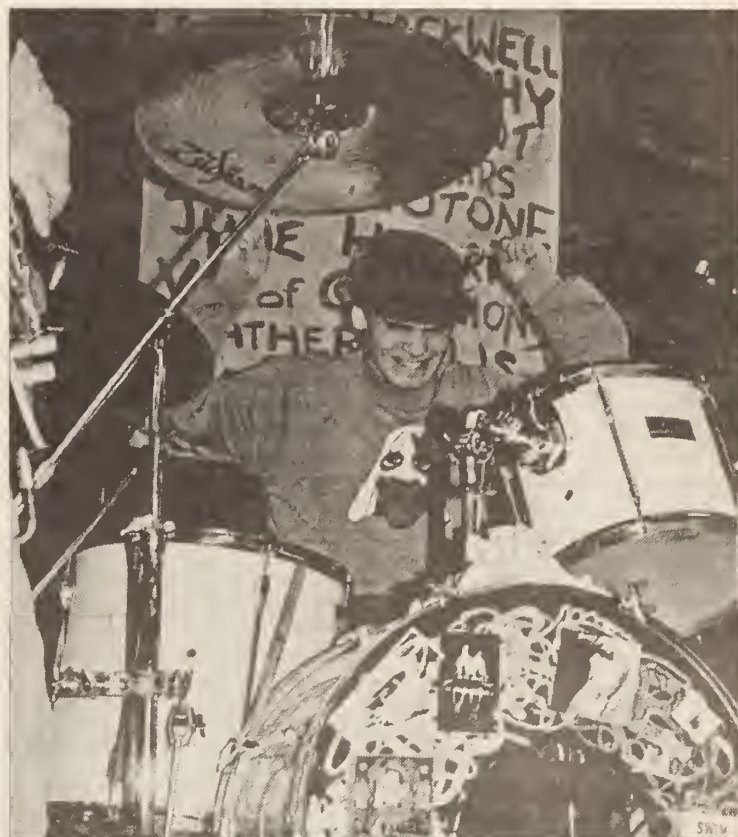
Some people, who were just passing through the Sanctuary, stopped to listen to the band's own version of alternative music.

By 12:30 p.m. students had begun to clear out, but devoted fans and friends stayed until the end.

Stephanie Baker, a broadcasting student came to the nooner with a friend of the band's. "It was mostly pretty great music, some of the music I liked and some of it I didn't. I felt you could identify with the songs and they had a great beat, so overall I enjoyed it."

Shannon Lyon Pop Explosion closed the 40-minute show with one of their hits, *Mod's Room*, named after the album.

The band can be seen at various locations throughout the Kitchener-Waterloo area.



Jody Gram of Shannon Lyon Pop Explosion, plays the drums during the band's performance in the Sanctuary Feb. 22. (Photo by Amanda Steffler)

Aye matey, the Muppets are back

Henson's new creation is a real treasure

By Amy Wroblewski

Shiver me timbers! The Muppets are back on the big screen in Walt Disney's *Muppet Treasure Island* and they are as zany and weird as ever. It's definitely a movie worth seeing.

All the Muppet favorites are featured in this high-seas adventure where they encounter pirates, a buried treasure and vacationing rats.

When young Jim Hawkins (Kevin Bishop) is given a treasure map by a dying, lunatic sailor (Billy Connolly), he sets out with his pals Gonzo and Rizzo the Rat on a treasure-finding quest.

They are joined by Squire Trelawney (Fozzie Bear), who frequently talks to the man inside his thumb, the dashing Captain Smollett (Kermit the Frog), and the devious Long John Silver (Tim Curry).

In this adaptation of the Robert Lewis Stevenson classic, Silver and his crew steal the treasure map and take Jim hostage.

Captain Smollett and the rest of the Muppet crew must go to his rescue when they encounter a tribe of angry warthogs led by none

movie review



Muppet Treasure Island Star: Kermit the Frog

other than Smollett's lost love, Benjamin Gunn (Miss Piggy).

In order to rescue Jim, Smollett must fight Silver which turns into a Muppet free for all. With Miss Piggy karate-chopping pirates and Fozzie talking to his thumb during a sword fight, it's enough to keep audiences howling.

One of the many great elements of the Muppets is they're entertaining for kids of ages, including adults. That's largely due to the original personality each character is given.

Miss Piggy, the leopard-skin clad goddess, had the traditional romance scene with Kermit while they were dangling off a cliff.

Rizzo is still a favorite with his sharp witticisms and ever-prevalent pessimistic attitude.

Although the Muppets were as comical as always, it was Tim Curry as Long John Silver who was the real treasure in the movie. Right down to the peg leg, Curry portrayed a dashing though mutinous pirate, who was just as animated as the Muppets themselves.

Over four hundred Muppets worked alongside more humans ever featured in a Muppet movie.

New Muppets were introduced alongside the old favorites. Polly the Lobster, Long John Silver's partner in crime, who stars with Clueless Morgan and Mad Monty. Acting was one component that made *Muppet Treasure Island* thoroughly enjoyable, but what really made the movie a high-roller was the musical numbers.

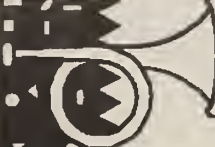
Lively songs like *Shiver My Timbers*, where the pirates, led by a sing-

ing and dancing Tim Curry, strut their stuff, were the highlight of the movie.

There were also the typical love songs between Kermit and Miss Piggy that lent the movie charm and romance like *Love Led Us Here*, and *Love Power*.

However, the best number by far was *Cabin Fever*. With goats dancing with rats dressed in Hawaiian shirts, it was enough to make the audience go overboard.

Muppet Treasure Island is a journey into mayhem for all to enjoy.



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ENTERTAINMENT

This little piggy needs to learn how to make music

By Linda Yovanovich

Now and then, you find yourself falling for a classic case of bait and switch.

Such was the case with Spacehog's new release *Resident Alien* and me. After hearing Spacehog's groovy first release *In the Meantime* and searching three different music stores for a copy of the CD, I was unpleasantly surprised by what I heard.

The first single from *Resident Alien*, which happens to be the first track on the CD, is a great cut with lovey, huggy, feel-good lyrics and a grooving bassline. It is reminiscent of the '60s sound which can be

music review



Spacehog CD: Resident Alien

heard on many new British releases such as Oasis' most recent effort.

The major difference being Oasis has released a strong CD with many songs worth listening to, while Spacehog stops short in the strong-song department after the third track. Not a good thing when the CD has 13 songs in total.

Aside from the first track, the other (two) highlights on *Resident Alien* are the title track Spacehog, which sounds as though it could be

a theme song for a Saturday morning cartoon show, and Starside, the third track on the CD.

However, even these three songs can't save *Resident Alien* from the incredibly stupid lyrics which plague the entire release — all 70 minutes of it. For example, in the track *Cruel to be Kind*, the chorus goes *You don't have to be cruel to be kind/ You don't have to be a fool to be blind*. Talk about predictable. Or better yet, in *Ship Wrecked* a

verse says *I always thought the captain's wife/ She's the one for me/ May not be a painting/ But she's the one for me*. Obviously, songwriter and lead vocalist, Roy Langdon skipped a few too many good song-writing classes before making this CD.

Langdon's voice, on the other hand, is a source of much amusement. One of two singing brothers in the band, Langdon's voice tends to sound like a combination of Adam Sandler from *Saturday Night Live* and Axl Rose of *Guns 'n Roses*. Unbelievable, but true. In the song *Only a Few*, Langdon does a wonderful impression, unintentional as it may have been, of San-

dler's infamous *Opera Man* falsetto.

The final track on the CD is called *To Be a Millionaire*, and tells the story of a guy who kills his mother and friends just to be — yes, you guessed it — a millionaire.

Perhaps I'm missing some deeper meaning, but this song is pathetic at best. And just to end on an all-time low, this last track has a eight minute pause, after which there is another eight minutes of noise which could be best described as sounding like cows humming to a radio. And to think at the ninth track I thought it couldn't get any worse.

Does anybody know if HMV gives refunds?

There's not much wrong with Mr. Wrong

By Patrick Moore

Mr. Wrong, starring sitcom star Ellen Degeneres, is a rare movie. In that I mean it is a Hollywood comedy that is actually funny.

Degeneres plays Martha Alston, a thirtyish talent co-ordinator for a talk show who is feeling the pressure from friends and family to find the perfect man, marry him and have children.

She despairs of ever meeting that man, however.

But when Martha meets Whitman Crawford, played by Bill Pullman (*While You Were Sleeping*, *Casper*), she thinks her luck may have changed.

Whitman is handsome, has a great car and seems caring and sensitive. He and Martha start dating and everything is perfect.

Before too long, however, Martha begins to suspect that Whitman is not quite as perfect as he seems. Unfortunately, she can't get rid of him.

Mr. Wrong is Degeneres' first feature film and her unique comedic style lends well to the big screen.

In *Mr. Wrong*, Degeneres comes over as genuinely likeable and, while not hilarious, at least

movie review



Mr. Wrong Star: Ellen Degeneres

amusing. Pullman puts in a solid romantic effort. He comes across as the perfect man early in the movie and the ultimate nightmare later on.

Joan Cusack (*Working Girl*, *Married to the Mob*) is fiendishly disturbing as Whitman's ex-girlfriend Inga, and Joan Plowright (*Town Without Pity*, *The Three Sisters*) plays Whitman's possessive mother.

As the movie progresses, Pullman's obsession with Degeneres becomes more and more pronounced. This is where the movie kicks into high gear.

Pullman's transformation from Don Juan to total nutbar is the certainly the best reason to see *Mr. Wrong*. He dresses up in a clown's outfit, he gets Martha thrown in jail and he breaks his own finger for her.

Normally, these three actions would add up to stupidity, but Pullman pulls them off with humor and style.

The chemistry between Degen-

eres and Pullman is constantly changing. There is an electricity between the two that is hard to resist.

The story is a play on the idea that there is a Mr. or Mrs. Right for everyone. Martha buys into this idea through her family and friends. What she gets by jumping head-first into a relationship, is trouble.

Of course, the movie could not work if the majority of the public had not already met their *Mr. Wrong*.

The comedy comes from seeing every bad blind date and every horrible and humiliating encounter we have ever had, up on the screen. Watching Martha suffer, we feel a little better about what we went through.

Overall, it's a totally enjoyable movie and judging from the laughter of the audience in the theatre, there is quite a bit right with *Mr. Wrong*.

Mr. Wrong is playing at the King's College cinema.

Leaving Las Vegas: a frightening reality

By T.L. Huffman

If you have a friend you think drinks too much, take them to see *Leaving Las Vegas* and they may never pick up a bottle again.

The flick is filled with sex, violence and alcohol abuse, a recipe that brings out frightening human emotions. It explores the feelings of worthlessness, fear and anger common to an alcoholic drinking his life away.

Golden Globe award winner Nicolas Cage portrays a man destined to hit rock bottom. A devoted alcoholic, his character, Ben, loses his job, cashes in on everything he owns and takes off to Las Vegas. While there, he decides to literally drink his life away.

Backing up Cage is the character Sera, played by Elisabeth Shue (*Adventures in Babysitting*). She is an abused Vegas prostitute who falls in love with Ben.

In exchange for fulfilling the desire to be needed, Sera tolerates Ben's disturbing behavior including his brawls in bars, his temper tantrums in casinos and his sporadic sleeping patterns.

Cage, in a challenging role, provides strength to his confused alcoholic character. His award-winning performance is flawless and the viewer is naturally disturbed by his

actions.

Shue, as supporting actress, is equally strong in her portrayal of Sera. Shue has mastered the role of loving girlfriend by day, hard core hooker by night in *Leaving Las Vegas*.

Mike Figgis is the director of *Leaving Las Vegas*, and he brings to the screen a unique style with a number of contrasts. The strongest contrast brought out in his directing is of sexual encounters between hooker and client, and man and woman.

Although the film's outcome is easily predicted, the plot brings to the surface the frightening reality of an alcoholic.

Perhaps Cage plays an extreme drunk, but his character lives a destructive lifestyle and sadly, he is too drunk to show any embarrassment at all.

Ben admits he is a drunk while downing a bottle of rye. He drives around the city followed by police as he drinks a bottle of vodka. He hits on other men's girlfriends over numerous martinis. And at no time is he able to loosen his clutch on the bottle.

Leaving Las Vegas shocks its viewer with the harsh realities of alcoholism. After seeing this flick it's almost impossible to want to go anywhere near the bottle.

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SPORTS



John Carson (17) of the Sault St. Marie Cougars, is held back by the referee after fighting with one of the Conestoga Condors.

(Photo by Jason Witzell)

Sports comment:

Ice surface turns into battlefield

By Amanda Weber

"Boys will be boys" is a saying used to excuse the behavior of the male gender, often when it comes to their actions in sports.

The sport most commonly associated with this phrase is Canada's national winter pastime: hockey.

Sure, rough play has its place in hockey (there is nothing better than a good, fair fight), but there is more to sports than male egos clashing and fists flying.

In a game against the Sir Sandford Fleming Auks, our Condors received some uncalled-for punishment.

Many Condors suffered high stick blows to the head when the Auks realized they had no chance of winning.

But the Condors can be proud of their performance against the

Auks. They kept their cool and didn't lower themselves to match the acts of the Auks.

Another example of violence in hockey was witnessed at a juvenile play-off game in Mildmay, Ont., where the home team experienced some of the same treatment as the Condors.

Why does losing cause players to turn into barbarians?

Sure, it is upsetting to lose, but there is no need to play dirty because your pride is hurt.

Hockey fans say the violence in the sport is just part of the game, the players are just relieving some steam.

But how do you explain the fact that games seem to be getting even more violent?

There is at least one "goon" on every team with one thing on his mind: demolish anyone between

him and the opposition's net.

Young boys watch lots of hockey and see their idols fight with one another, thinking that's the thing to do.

But often when they get punished for it, they don't understand what is going on.

It is hard to explain that what they are doing is wrong, especially when they see pros like Chicago Black Hawks' Bob Probert beating on other players.

Violence has been an issue in hockey for many viewers for years, but there has been nothing done about it.

If more severe punishments were handed out to those who committed the violence, there would be fewer violent acts.

Boys may be boys, but what happens when those boys become vicious penalty seekers?

Hard to hold



Lindsay Heighton of Ottawa (bottom) and Maria Kangrgu take it to the mats in the All-Ontario girls' wrestling semi-finals Friday, Feb. 29. The match was sponsored by the Ontario Amateur Wrestling Association.

(Photo by Tara Brown)

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SPORTS

Issues and activities editor: Linda Yovanovich 748-5366

Cougars succumb to Condor shooting power

By Blake Ellis

The Conestoga Condors proved why they are ranked at the top of the Canadian College Athletic Association standings Feb. 23, at the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre with a lopsided 12-2 win against the visiting Sault College Cougars.

Conestoga's Jason Wadel set the pace for the Condors with a shot from inside the blueline which found the back of the net just 30 seconds into the game.

Graig Elliott blanked the Sault's goaltender Robert Hands six minutes later before the Sault's Jarmo Raiha beat Chris Marshall on a power play to make it 2-1

Six minutes later, Terry Lammens fired a shot at the Sault net. Hands got a piece of it, but was unable to hang on as it bounced in behind him.

Dwayne Kroft and Jeff White scored two goals between them before the Sault's Brad Bounty

was able to put one between Marshall's legs to put the score at 5-2 with four minutes left to play in the first period.

Joel Washkurak drilled a well-screened shot at the goal to net a power-play goal for the Condors a minute later.

Brent Cullaton scored an unassisted wrap-around goal with the first period winding down, to give the Condors a commanding 7-2 lead.

Cullaton scored his second of the night, the second period's only goal to put the score at 8-2.

The Sault Cougars were unable to beat Marshall the rest of the game.

Joel Washkurak scored his second goal of the game three minutes into the third.

Seven seconds later, Evan Anderson replied for the Condors putting the score at 10-2.

Lammens and Anderson scored their second goals of the game to put the final score at 12-2.

Condors head coach, Tony Martindale said, it's tough in games like this one because sometimes it's easy to let bad habits form.

The Condors had just come off an 8-3 road-game win against the Cambrian Golden Shield of Sudbury, who are ranked second in the Ontario College Athletic Association standings.

In other hockey news, the Condors beat the Seneca College Braves 6-1 on Feb. 28.

The Condors are preparing to host the provincial hockey championships on March 15 and 16 at the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre.

The quarter finals will pit the Sault Cougars against the Seneca Braves in game one and the Cambrian Golden Shield against the Fleming Auks in game 2. The finals will pit the Fleming Knights playing the winners from game one, and the Condors playing the winners from game two.



Condors captain Brian Park readies himself to battle Cougars Jarmo Raiha at the start of the second period during their match Feb. 23.

(Photo by Diane Santos)

Maintaining intensity
Condors back to full strength

By Blake Ellis

Conestoga College will be hosting the Ontario College Athletic Association Championships from March 15-16 at the Kenneth E. Hunter Recreation Centre.

The winner of the tournament will advance to the Canadian College Athletic Association Championships which will also be held at Conestoga in late March, so it will prove to be hockey at its best.

The Conestoga Condors, ranked first nationally, are touted as favorites in the provincial tournament and confidence is high that the Condors can take the gold medal, like they did in 1994, and advance to the nationals.

Condors' head coach Tony Martindale, said the team has still got some little things to correct in their play before the tournament, to ensure a Condors win. Martindale wants to make sure bad habits don't start to form and the team can keep its intensity throughout the game.

In order to keep the intensity, Martindale said the team has been doing scrimmages during practices.

Two injured Condors will be back in the line-up for the provincials. Chris Palubeskie, who severely sprained his ankle in a game against the Cambrian Golden Shield on Feb. 17, is expected to be back by March 15. Condors goalie, Devin Stuebing, who broke his finger during the warm-up for the OCAA all-

star game at Conestoga College on Jan. 6, is expected to return by the start of the tournament.

Martindale said the Condors' Feb. 22 practice was the first time Stuebing was able to get back between the pipes, and according to Martindale he did well. During Stuebing's absence, Chris Marshall and Robert Taylor have been sharing the goal duties. Martindale must now decide who to put between the pipes.

The Condors and the Cambrian Golden Shield are in the finals because they will finish in first and second place in the OCAA league respectively.

The four other teams in the league will have to battle it out to find out who will meet the Fleming Knights of Peterborough and Conestoga in the semi-finals. The winner of the semi-final games will meet in the gold medal game on March 16 to decide who will play in the two-team national championships in late March.

Final Team Standings

Team	GP	W	L	T
Conestoga	14	12	1	1
Cambrian	14	9	4	1
S.S. Fleming (P)	10	5	5	0
Seneca	14	4	7	3
Sault	10	2	6	2
S.S. Fleming (L)	10	0	9	1

Final Individual Standings

Name	Team	G	A	PTS
Evan Anderson	CON	22	23	45
Troy Calcy	CAM	21	23	44
Chad Mullen	SFP	9	12	21
Bob McAskill	CAM	14	17	31
Neale Schoenfeld	SFL	9	10	19
Dwayne Kropf	CON	10	13	23
Terry Lammens	CON	7	16	23
Joel Washcurak	CON	7	16	23
Jason Lewis	SFP	5	13	18
Taduen Neuman	SFP	9	5	14

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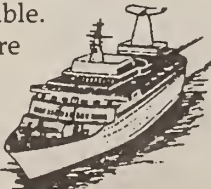
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